

The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment printed in the rule shall be considered as adopted.

The rule waives points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 (prohibiting unauthorized or legislative provisions in a general appropriations bill) or clause 6 (prohibiting reappropriations in a general appropriations bill) of Rule XXI, except as specified in the rule.

The rule also waives all points of order against each amendment printed in the Rules Committee report which may only be offered in the order specified, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall be offered only by the member designated in the report, and is not amendable.

The rule accords priority in recognition to those Members who have pre-printed their amendments in the Congressional Record prior to their consideration. The rule also allows the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes during consideration of the bill, and to reduce the vote to 5 minutes on a postponed question provided that the vote follows a 15 minute vote.

The rule waives points of order against all amendments for failure to comply with clause 2(e) of rule XXI (prohibiting non-emergency designated amendments to be offered to an appropriations bill containing an emergency designation). Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

#### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY POSTURE

*Committee on Science:* Held a hearing on Department of Energy Posture. Testimony was heard from Federico Pena, Secretary of Energy.

#### COMMERCIAL VESSEL SAFETY

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing on Commercial Vessel Safety. Testimony was heard from Rear Adm. Robert C. North, USCG, Assistant Commandant, Marine Safety and Environmental Protection, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation; and public witnesses.

#### VETERANS ADMINISTRATION'S COMPENSATION AND PENSION SERVICE

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Benefits held a hearing on operations within the VA's Compensation and Pension Service using Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) principles, to review the adequacy of VA's efforts in the processing of Persian Gulf War claims for compensation, and to discuss legislation to limit the liability

for compensating and treating veterans with smoking-related diseases. Testimony was heard from Kristine Moffitt, Director, Compensation and Pension Service, Department of Veterans Affairs; Stephen Backhus, Director, Veterans' Affairs and Military Health Care Issues, GAO; and representatives of veterans organizations.

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### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 15, 1997

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

*Committee on Appropriations,* Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for foreign assistance programs, focusing on combatting infectious diseases worldwide, 10:30 a.m., SD-138.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs,* to hold hearings to examine the United States and allied efforts to recover and restore gold and other assets stolen or hidden by Germany during World War II, 10 a.m., SD-106.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation,* to hold hearings on S. 255, to provide for the reallocation and auction of a portion of the electromagnetic spectrum to enhance law enforcement and public safety telecommunications, 9:30 a.m., SR-253.

Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space, to hold oversight hearings on staff reductions for fiscal years 1997 and 1998 for the National Weather Service, 2 p.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources,* Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Resources Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health to review the Columbia River Basin Environmental Impact Statement, 2 p.m., SD-366.

*Committee on Finance,* Subcommittee on International Trade, to hold hearings to examine market access issues for United States agricultural exports, 2 p.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Foreign Relations,* Subcommittee on African Affairs, to hold hearings to examine terrorism in Sudan, 10:30 a.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Labor and Human Resources,* to resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Higher Education Act, focusing on student aid delivery systems, 10 a.m., SD-430.

*Committee on Small Business,* to resume hearings on the Small Business Administration's finance programs, 9:30 a.m., SR-428A.

*Committee on Veterans Affairs,* to hold hearings to examine allegations of sexual harassment in the Department of Veterans Affairs, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

*Select Committee on Intelligence,* to hold closed hearings on intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH-219.

## NOTICE

For a listing of Senate committee meetings scheduled ahead, see pages E933–34 in today's Record.

## House

*Committee on Agriculture*, Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry, hearing to review the USDA's progress in implementing the dairy reforms in the Foreign Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, 10 a.m., 1302 Longworth.

*Committee on Banking and Financial Services*, hearing on Department of Treasury study of Cash Surpluses at the San Antonio Branch of the Dallas Federal Reserve Bank, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on the Budget*, to mark up the Fiscal Year 1998 Budget Resolution, 2 p.m., 210 Cannon.

*Committee on Commerce*, Subcommittee on Health and Environment and Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, to continue joint hearings on Review of EPA's Proposed Ozone and Particulate Matter NAAQS Revisions, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on the Judiciary*, Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property, oversight hearing on Judicial Misconduct and Discipline, 9 a.m., 2237 Rayburn.

*Committee on National Security*, Subcommittee on Military Research and Development and the Subcommittee on Military Procurement, joint hearing on National Missile Defense, 10:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

*Committee on Resources*, Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans, hearing on H.R. 741, Migratory Bird Treaty Reform Act of 1997, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands, oversight hearing on Bureau of Land Management Law Enforcement Authorities, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

*Committee on Rules*, to consider H.R. 1385, Employment, Training and Literacy Enhancement Act of 1997, 2 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

*Committee on Small Business*, Subcommittee on Tax, Finance, and Exports, hearing on "Does OPIC Help Small Business Exporters?" 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing on One Year After ValuJet Crash—FAA Response to Hazmat and Cargo Fire Protection Issues, 9:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Economic Development, hearing on Innovative Financing for Acquiring Federal Real Estate and Scoring Issues, 10 a.m., 2253 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs*, Subcommittee on Health, to mark up H.R. 1362, Veterans Medicare Reimbursement Demonstration Act of 1997; and proposals on both Medical Care Cost Recovery and physician's special pay, 9:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

*Committee on Ways and Means*, Subcommittee on Trade, oversight hearing on U.S. Customs Service, 2 p.m., B-318 Rayburn.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, executive, briefing on North Korea, 10 a.m., H-405 Capitol.

## Joint Meetings

*Joint Hearing*: Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Resources Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health to review the Columbia River Basin Environmental Impact Statement, 2 p.m., SD-366.